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### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AUDIT

**FY 2015 Audit.** State Auditor Mary Mosiman recently released the audit report on the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) for FY 2015. The Iowa DPS is charged with promoting the safety of all Iowans from hazards associated with crime, fire, and traffic through law enforcement.

**FY 2015 Findings.** Findings related to statutory requirements and other matters included:

- The DPS could not provide support for the payroll allocation percentages for payroll distribution for employees working on state and federal programs whose time is allocated based on actual activity. Errors appeared to be due to employee oversight. The Auditor recommends that the DPS should ensure that employees record actual hours worked on each federal program rather than predetermined percentages. The Department agrees and has taken steps to ensure that this will happen.
- The DPS did not maintain a complete listing of all personal services contracts effective for FY 2015. The Auditor recommends that personal services contracts should be properly approved prior to execution and a listing of all contracts entered into and outstanding should be maintained. The Department agrees and has established standards to accomplish this. This item was also noted by the Auditor in the FY 2014 audit.
- There is a requirement in the Iowa Code that local fire officials file 90.0% of monthly fire reports with the State Fire Marshal Division within 10 business days following the end of each month for all fires causing an estimated damage of \$50 or more or emergency responses by the fire service. However, less than 90.0% of fire reports are being submitted by local officials. The Department responded that web-based software purchased in 2010 has made it easier for fire departments to report their fires; however, while the state requires timely reporting, there is no funding mechanism for this and the DPS does not have authority to sanction fire chiefs that do not report in a timely manner. This item was also noted by the Auditor in the FY 2014 audit.

**More Information.** The full audit report can be found on the Auditor of State's web site [here](#).

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